



Faculty of Resource Science and Technology

**MODIFICATION OF  $\alpha,\beta$ -CONJUGATED ENOL-KETO CONTAINING  
COMPOUND TOWARDS TO THE SYNTHESIS OF  
ETHYLENEIMINE COMPOUND AND ITS COMPLEXES**

**Ong Cheng Guan**  
24798

**Bachelor of Science with Honours**  
**(Resource Chemistry)**  
2012

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Final Year Project Report ☒Masters ☐PhD ☐

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Received for examination by: 

(Name of the supervisor)

Dr. Tay Meng Guan

Lecturer

Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi Sumber

UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK

94300 Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia.

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**Modification of  $\alpha,\beta$ -conjugated enol-keto containing compound towards to the synthesis of ethyleneimine compound and its complexes with Co(II)**

**Ong Cheng Guan (24798)**

**A dissertation submitted in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Bachelor of Science (Hons.)**

**Resource Chemistry  
Department of Chemistry  
Faculty of Resource Science and Technology  
University Malaysia Sarawak  
2012**

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---

Ong Cheng Guan

Program of Resource Chemistry

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## List of Abbreviation

[Ir(ppy) <sub>3</sub> ]	= Tris(2-phenylpyridine) iridium(III)
[Ir(thpy) <sub>3</sub> ]	= Tris[2-(2-thionyl)pyridine] iridium(III)
[Rh(bpy) <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>3+</sup>	= Tris(bipyridine) rhodium(III) trication
[Rh(phen) <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>3+</sup>	= Tris(1,10-phenanthroline) rhodium(III) trication
[Rh(ppy) <sub>3</sub> ]	= Tris(2-phenylpyridine) rhodium(III)
acac	= Acetylacetone
bpy	= 2,2-Bipyridine
CT	= Charge transfer
en	= ethylenediamine
HOMO	= highest occupied molecular orbital
ISC	= intersystem crossing
LC	= ligand centred
LUMO	= lowest unoccupied molecular orbital
MLCT	= metal to ligand charge-transfer
OLED	= organic light emitting diode
phen	= 1,10-phenanthroline
ppy	= 2-phenylpyridine
thpy	= 2-(2-thionyl)pyridine

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# Modification of $\alpha,\beta$ -conjugated enol-keto containing compound towards to the synthesis of ethyleneimine compound and its complexes with Co(II)

Ong Cheng Guan

Resource Chemistry  
Faculty of Resource Science and Technology  
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

## ABSTRACT:

This project was aimed to synthesize the allylideneamine moiety ligand in order to replace the phenylpyridine (ppy) moiety ligand in the metallacycle complexes. The L series compounds were synthesized by reacting *p*-(R)-acetophenone ( $R = H$  or  $NO_2$ ) to glyoxal through cross-adol condensation reaction. Then, three S series compounds were synthesized by adding 2-aminophenol into the L series compounds using Schiff base synthesis reaction. Two of the S series compounds namely S1 and S2 were not obtained in the synthesis; indeed, another product namely S4 was obtained from the reaction of remaining glyoxal and 2-aminophenol. Two  $Co^{2+}$  complexes were prepared from the reaction of respective S4 and S3 compounds to  $CoCl_2$  at room temperature and the spectroscopic data from NMR, IR and UV were obtained. There are some changes found in the IR,  $^1H$  NMR and UV-visible spectra of complexes compared to their free ligand. The conductivity studies showed that the oxidation states of the complexes were remained at +2 oxidation state and all complexes are neutral complex.

Keywords: Cobalt(II) complexes, allylideneamine.

## ABSTRAK:

*Projek ini bertujuan untuk mensintesis ligan allylideneamine untuk menggantikan ligan phenylpyridine (ppy) di dalam kompleks kitaran logam. Sebatian siri L telah disintesis melalui tindak balas p-(R)-acetophenone ( $R = H$  atau  $NO_2$ ) dengan glyoxal melalui tindak balas pemeluwapan rentas adol. Kemudian, tiga sebatian siri S telah disintesis dengan menambah 2-aminophenol ke dalam sebatian siri L dengan menggunakan tindak balas sintesis asas Schiff bes. Dua sebatian dalam siri S iaitu S1 dan S2 tidak diperolehi dalam sintesis; akan tetapi produk lain iaitu S4 telah diperolehi daripada tindak balas saki-baki glyoxal dengan 2-aminophenol. Dua  $Co^{2+}$  kompleks telah disintesis daripada tindak balas sebatian S4 dan S3 dengan  $CoCl_2$  pada suhu bilik dan data spektroskopi dari NMR, IR dan UV telah diperolehi. Terdapat beberapa perubahan didalam spektrum IR,  $^1H$  NMR dan UV-visible kelihatan di kompleks berbanding dengan ligan bebas masing-masing. Kajian kekonduksian menunjukkan bahawa keadaan pengoksidaan kompleks telah kekal pada keadaan pengoksidaan +2 dan semua kompleks adalah neutral.*

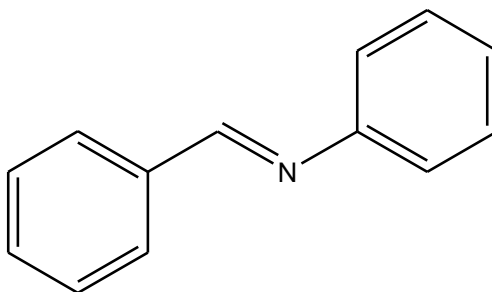
*Kata Kunci: Kompleks Cobalt(II), allylideneamine.*

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Schiff Base

Schiff base was first reported by Hugo Schiff in 1864. Schiff base can be prepared by condensation of carbonyl compound and amines in different condition with the elimination of water molecules.

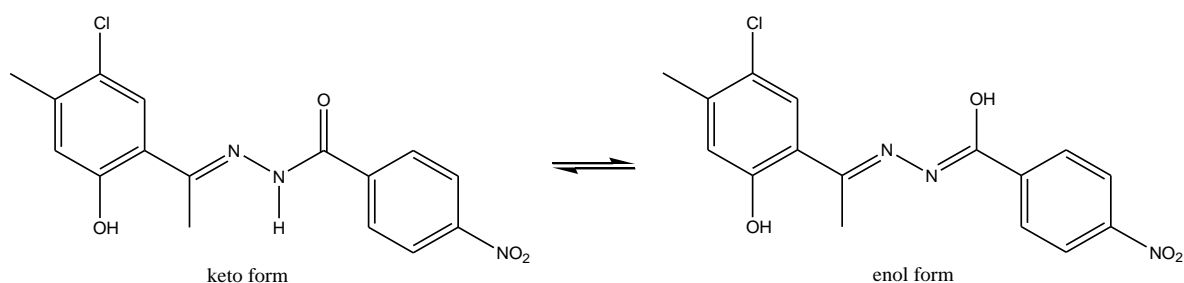
The common structural feature of these compounds azomethine group with the general formula  $\text{RHC}=\text{N-R}'$ , where R and R' are alky, aryl, cyclo alkyl or heterocyclic group which maybe variously substituted.



**Figure 1:** The basic structure of Schiff base

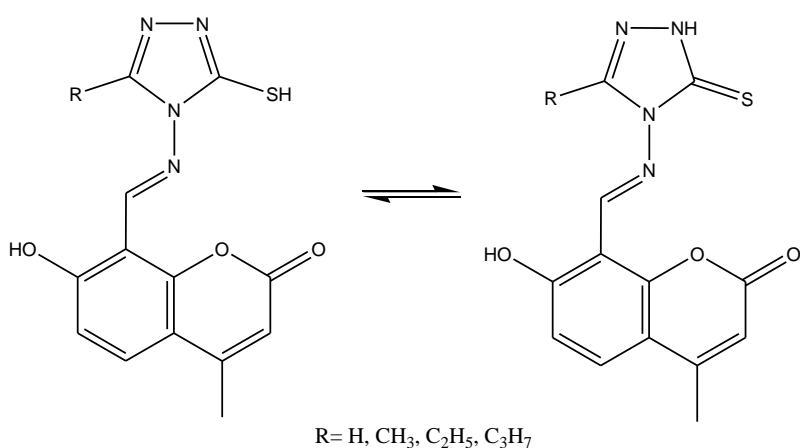
The chelating ability of the Schiff bases combination with ease of preparation and flexibility in varying the chemical environment about the  $\text{C}=\text{N}$  group (imines) make it as an interesting ligand in the coordination chemistry, and as a result, Schiff base is one of the most common ligand in inorganic complexes.

In addition of the complexation studies, Schiff bases containing compounds also have been widely used in different type of applications especially biological and electronic applications. Yaul *et al.* (2009) reported that organic Schiff base arylhyrazones (**Scheme 1**) can be served as the models of biological application as it showed excellent properties in anti-tuberculosis, antimicrobial and corrosion inhibitors.



**Scheme 1:** The organic Schiff base arylhydrazones by Yaul *et al.* (2009)

Apart from the Schiff bases itself, Schiff base complexes (**Scheme 2**) showed potent antibacterial activity against *Escherichia coli*, *Staphyococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus pyogenes*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Salmonella typhi* and antifungal activities against *Aspergillus niger*, *Aspergillus flavus* and *Cladosporium* (Bagihalli *et al.*, 2008).



**Scheme 2:** Tautomeric structures of 1, 2, 4-triazole Schiff base by Bagihalli *et al.* (2008)

In 1997, Ming *et al.* reported that Schiff bases have a wide potentially in the electronic application such as in optical information storage and photo-switching due to the fact that it has high chemical stability, high selectivity, sensitivity characteristics and would not be decomposed under UV light irradiation.

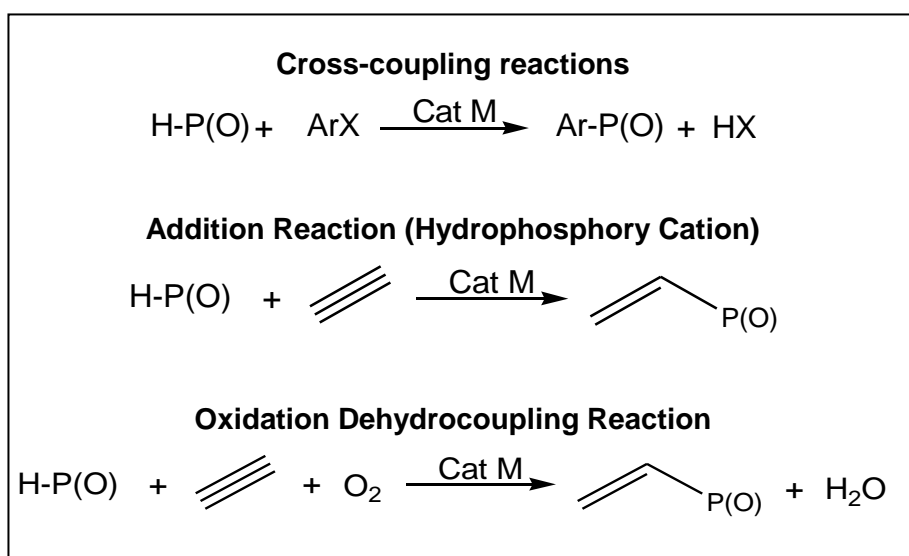
## 1.2 Transition Metal

Transition metal contains incomplete *d* sub-shells in their electron orbitals which refer to those elements located at group III until XI in the periodic table.

In general, the complexes in the early first row of transition metals namely from Sc to Mn usually have high spin configuration at the ground state, whereas the late transition metal complexes namely Fe to Cu usually have low spin configuration at the ground states (Xu & Han, 2011). The early transition metals (Sc, Ti, V, Cr, Mn) are more basic, because they tend to donate their valence electrons compare to late transition metal (Fe, Co, Ni & Cu) which are more acidic because they prefer to accept electrons in their *d* valance orbitals. Due to this reason, transition metal can exhibit a wide range of oxidation states. Early transition metal can lose their entire *d* valance electrons and give high oxidation state cations such as  $\text{Cr}^{6+}$  and  $\text{Mn}^{7+}$ , while late transition metals can only give up to +3 oxidation state. Different oxidation states in between late and early transition metals leads to the different kinds of coordination complexes formed. In general, the early transition metals can form the complexes with higher coordination numbers than those late transition metals. This is due to the various number of oxidation states in transition metals, there are numbers of unique properties in the transition metals which are not found in other elements, for example, colour of the compound and their electronic transferring. As a result, transition metal containing complexes are widely used in the applications such as catalysis, luminescent devices and solar cell properties due to their electron transferring properties in the complex.

### 1.2.1 Catalysis application

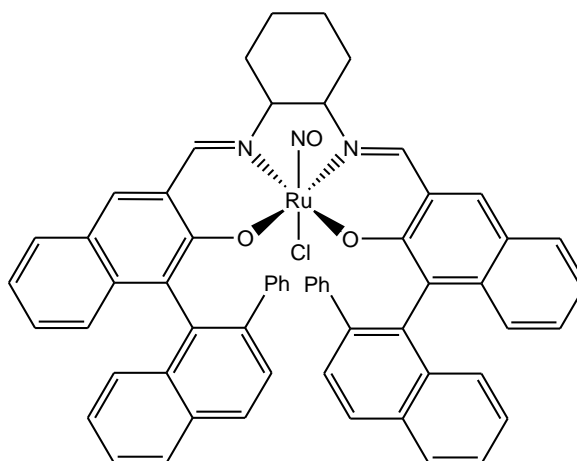
Catalysis is the most early application examples of transition metal containing compounds. The principle of catalysis involves the changing of oxidation states and coordination numbers of the metal centre, which enables the incoming additional ligands interact with the existing ligands and leave the complex as a new organic product, at the same time, the metal return back to the active catalyst condition and repeat the catalytic process. For example, metal-catalyzed cross coupling reactions of H-P(O) bond with aryl and vinyl halides or metal-mediated addition (**Scheme 3**) are potentially of bond formation oxidative dehydrocoupling of H-P(O) bonds with alkynes (Xu & Han, 2011).



**Scheme 3:** General C-P(O) bond forming reaction mediated by metal

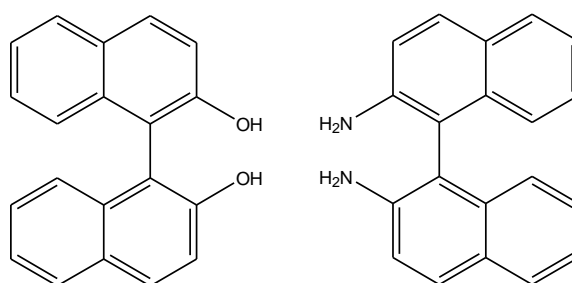
Indeed, Schiff bases containing metal complexes were found, have also been used in the catalysis application. In 1999, Katsuki and co-worker first reported the synthesis and catalytic application of ruthenium(II) complex (**Figure 2**) containing chiral tetradentate (N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) Schiff base ligand, and these type of metal complexes have been used in the catalysis application of asymmetric epoxidation of unfunctionalised olefins.





**Figure 2:** The structure of ruthenium(II) complex reported by Katsuki *et al.* (1999)

In addition, Telfer and Kuroda (2003) and Ding *et al.* (2008) also reported the catalytic properties of the Schiff base complexes (**Figure 3**), which are using salicylaldehyde as the starting material. They found that the catalytic properties of the Schiff base complexes can be altered by changes in the Schiff base portion in epoxidation, hydrogenation and miscellaneous reaction.



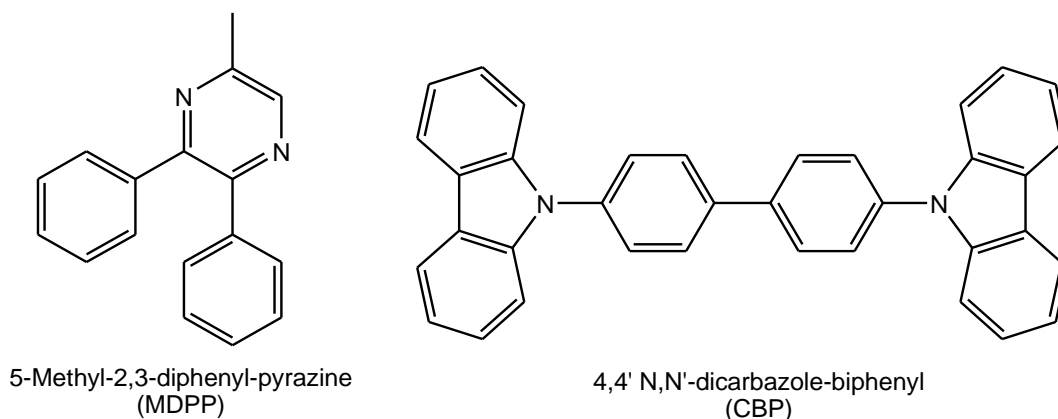
1,1'-Binaphthyl-2,2'-diol (BINOL) 2,2'-diamino-1,1'-binaphthyl (BINAM)

**Figure 3:** The structure of BINOL and BINAM

In addition, the homogeneous catalytic reaction of transition metal Schiff base complexes was also reported in the catalysis application. For examples, polymer and zeolite encapsulated Schiff base complexes are the most widely used. This is due to its advance catalytic activity in the Heck reaction (Lyer *et al.*, 2004).

### 1.2.2 Luminescent applications

Apart from the catalysis applications, luminescent properties of metal complexes also show different from the simple organic molecules. This is due to the fact that the metal centre, which is a heavy atom, can significantly generate intersystem crossing (ISC) in the excited states of the complex and changing the single excited states to triplet excited states. As a result, the luminescent metal complexes can generate relatively high efficiencies and long life phosphorescence (**Figure 4**) (Zhang *et al.*, 2005). These properties have been widely applied in the light emitting devices such as organic light emitting diode (OLED) devices (Baldo *et al.*, 1998).



**Figure 4:** The structure of MDPP by Zhang *et al.* (2005) and CBP by Baldo *et al.* (1998) act as donor and host material

Furthermore, Dedeian and co-worker (2007) had used *fac*-[Ir(ppy)<sub>3</sub>] (**Figure 5**) (ppy = 2-phenylpyridine) as prototypical example. The mixing of orbital of the coordination phenylpyridine with valance 5*d* orbital of iridium give a highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) with mixed of phenyl and iridium and the other hand the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) showed primarily phenylpyridine based. The structural change of the ligand also can lead to an undesirable reduction where it has a little effect on the energy of emissive  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  excited state of the complexes. This was proved by the short luminescence decay times in the study of *fac*-[Ir(ppy)<sub>3</sub>] (Arm *et al.*, 2005). In